Jan. 2nd 1869

Oliver Johnson,

Independent Office,

New York City.

Ms.A.1.1 V.7 P.100A

Roxbury, June 20, 1859.

Dear Johnson:

After making altogether too short a visit to Rockledge, George returns to New York to-night; and I avail myself of the opportunity to ~~send~~ you my thanks for the excellent and very satisfactory carte visite of yourself, which I shall carefully preserve among those of friends nearest and dearest to me. By this time I ought to have another taken of myself, so as to more truly conform ~~to~~ to all those subtle changes of nature which are always going on, making us never the same from year to year. I will reciprocate your ~~present~~ gift as soon as an opportunity is presented. Wife and I very strongly desire to possess a photograph of Mary Ann, and our collection will be incomplete without it. Don't fail to send us one in due season. It will be next to having her with us.

I am glad to hear that your Longwood anniversary passed off so acceptably, and with so few bores. As you do not mention Anna Dickinson or Robert Purvis, I presume they were not present. Nor do you state whether Alfred Love was with you; and, if so, how the questions of peace and the Indians were disposed of. I presume, however, the proceedings will be published in pamphlet form. It is a great pity that Dr. Stebbins should be so lacking in taste and true courtesy in enforcing his views of the temperance movement. The appearance and speech of Bayard Taylor, on the occasion, must have been a matter of interest to many. Living after the manner of the world, it is nothing to be surprised at that he is not in sympathy with radical reformers; but he has his good points, and manifests a commendable spirit in being willing to participate in your proceedings. Did the young Unitarian minister from New Bedford, Mr. Potter, meet your expec-

tations? and how were his sentiments received by the assembly? Lucy Stone and her husband were real acquisitions. They are certainly well mated, and advocate the cause of woman with marked ability and rare good sense.

We have had the greatest excitement, the past week, Boston has ever known, in the great Jubilee celebration, which brought to the city hundreds of thousands of visitors, and which was in every point of view a marvellous success. I was present at four out of five of the performances, and never before beheld such a mass of human beings assembled within doors, or heard such a grand outburst of music.

H. J. Raymond's death was startling by its utter unexpectedness.

Should you publish my article on Sumner's speech, save for me, if practicable, some half a dozen copies of the Independent, as I wish to send them to certain persons in England. I will get George or

Wendell to direct them, and put them into the foreign mail. I suppose Mr. Sumner will hardly like the distinction I make between his speech and the rejection of the treaty; but, in my judgment, it is a very important one, and not less correct than important, and relieves the controversy of a good deal of embarrassment on all sides.

I got a glimpse of President Grant, for the first time, on Wednesday, while reviewing the troops. He has a very commonplace look, and no one, without being told, would ever imagine that he possessed any remarkable ability, in a military sense or otherwise. Thus far, as President, he has done exceedingly well.

Steadfastly yours,

W. L. G.